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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 16 March 1970

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1. [REDACTED] Bob Wichser, in the office of Representative Paul Findley (R., Ill.), called on behalf of a professor friend of the Congressman's regarding the conflict of information between the press and Government officials on the Phoenix program and what information we may have given to our congressional oversight committees on this subject. I referred him to Ambassador Colby's testimony in open session before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and told him that the information we give our congressional committees is classified, but even if it wasn't classified, it would be improper for us to speak for a congressional committee. He agreed.

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3. [REDACTED] Accompanied the Director who met with Chairman Morgan and Ranking Minority Member Adair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee regarding ground rules for the Director's appearance before the Committee. See Memo for Record.

Later discussed the above with Boyd Crawford, of the Committee staff, and after checking with the Director told him that the Director could appear at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 24 March 1970. The briefing will be a general world roundup in executive session in room 2172 Rayburn House Office Building. Crawford said it would run "at least until noon."

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4. [] Informed Russ Blandford, Chief Counsel of the House Armed Services Committee, Ralph Preston, Staff Assistant of the House Appropriations Committee, Ed Braswell, Chief of Staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Bill Woodruff, Counsel of the Senate Appropriations Committee, of plans for the Director's appearance before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. None seemed to find any major problems.

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5. [] Talked to Bill Woodruff, Counsel of the Senate Appropriations Committee, who said that Chairman Russell had asked Woodruff to see Chairman Stennis, of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and suggest Stennis, in Russell's absence, convene a meeting of our two Subcommittees, probably Friday, 20 March. Woodruff said that if Stennis was unable to do so, Russell wanted Ellender to convene the CIA Appropriations Subcommittee alone. Woodruff said that Russell felt strongly that our Subcommittees should promptly be informed of the situation in Laos, and apparently contemplated not covering any other matters. Woodruff remarked that Senator Margaret Chase Smith would probably soon be added to our Appropriations Subcommittee and would be invited to attend the session.

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7. [] Called Russ Blandford, Ralph Preston, Bill Woodruff and Ed Braswell and briefly summarized the highlights of the Director's appearance before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Laos on Friday, 13 March 1970.

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cc:
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[]
JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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[] Mr. Evans Mr. Houston Mr. Goodwin
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